

TOP SECRET

19 March 1963

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SUBJECT: [REDACTED] Report Describing Soviet Ballistic  
Missiles in Cuba

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[REDACTED] described [REDACTED] missiles he had seen being transported through Havana on the night of 12 September. To assist his description, he drew a rough sketch. Later, from photographs shown him, he identified the Surface-to-Surface, SS-4 MRBM. The report [REDACTED] was disseminated to intelligence analysts in cable form on 24 September 1962, and in "hard copy" on 27 September. The report included the fact that the source had drawn a sketch, but it did not include the sketch itself, and the sketch was never delivered in Washington. The report did include the fact, however, that the source had identified the SS-4 MRBM, as well as the details from his verbal description.

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(If the attached copy of the disseminated report is furnished, it should be pointed out that the bracketed information attached to paragraph 5 misnames the SS-4 as "SHYSTER;" it should have referred to the SS-4 "SANDAL.")

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19 March 1963

SUBJECT: Unloading of Soviet Ships in Cuba under "Secure Conditions" since November 1962

There have been reports relating to seven identifiable ships unloading in Cuba under "secure conditions" or "security restrictions." Three of these ships carried full military cargo. Two carried some items of military use; two carried radioactive materials destined for medical or industrial uses.

The following summarizes the evidence on the unloading of these seven ships, arranged chronologically:

ANGARSKLES unloaded about 11-12 January at Mariel, the Cuban military port at which security restrictions are normally in force. Cargo appears to have consisted of one transport aircraft, plus a full load of lumber.

LEDICE, a Czech ship, ~~also~~ unloaded at Havana on 12 January. It may have carried some unidentified radioactive material, possibly for medical use, and a number of cases of primacord. Routine security precautions reportedly were in force during unloading.

MICHURINSK unloaded in Havana on 15 January a small quantity of radioactive material for industrial use. Special handling was in force, as would be normal for this type of material.

SIMFEROPOL arrived in Havana on 17 January with a probable military cargo. Soviet and Cuban military personnel met the ship, and the dock and harbor area near it were checked by frogmen. Cuban military personnel did the unloading instead of regular longshoremen. Aerial photography showed crates being discharged; the dimensions of the crates were such that they could not have contained military aircraft or ballistic missiles. Various sources reported that the cargo included "explosives." The evidence suggests that this was a routine resupply mission.

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KASIMOV arrived in Havana on 25 January carrying six MI-4 helicopters in addition to nearly 5,000 tons of flour and some machinery and equipment. The helicopters were unloaded by military personnel and security restrictions were imposed around the ship.

KHIMIK ZELINSKY arrived in the military port of Mariel on 7-8 February and delivered a full military cargo, including a large number of military vehicles. Other items in the cargo are reported to have included crates, artillery pieces and tanks.

KHIRURG VISHNEVSKY arrived on 27 February at Bahia Honda, a port which had been used previously for military cargo. Normal security restrictions for a military cargo were in force around the dock area, and the mouth of the channel was blocked by what appeared to be a patrol craft. Observers described boxes of various sizes which they believed contained ammunition. In addition, photography showed crate-like objects, some 10 feet long, being unloaded.